

Office of Congressman Charles W. Dent  
*Proudly Representing Pennsylvania's 15<sup>th</sup> District*



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Press Contact: Gregg W. Bortz  
610-861-9734 or (cell) 202-222-5118

## Congressman Dent, Senator Santorum deliver \$10M for American Parkway Bridge in Allentown

ALLENTOWN — U.S. Rep. Charlie Dent (PA-15) and U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) presented a check for \$10 million from the federal Highway Bill toward the construction of the long-planned American Parkway Bridge, which will provide a transportation link between Center City Allentown and Route 22.

The Senator and Congressman presented the check to Mayor Ed Pawlowski at Kimmet's Lock, a small park along the Lehigh Canal near the site of the new bridge. Also attending was Lehigh County Executive Don Cunningham and County Commissioners, representatives of state Legislature, PennDOT, Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce officials, and other members of the community.

"This is a major component to improving economic development and quality of life in the Lehigh Valley," Congressman Dent said. "Connecting the American Parkway will help alleviate congestion that now exists on Allentown's streets and on Route 22 by providing a new east-west crossing of the Lehigh River into the city. It will open up Center City Allentown for better economic development, and it will be a regional asset that addresses growth pressures throughout the Valley."

"I am pleased to join Congressman Dent to deliver federal funds for the American Parkway Bridge, which will connect center city Allentown to the rest of the Lehigh Valley and alleviate traffic congestion on Route 22,"

Senator Santorum said. “Connecting the communities of the Lehigh Valley is fundamental to economic development and regional growth.”

“I want to thank Congressman Dent and Senator Santorum for their help,” Mayor Pawlowski said. “This bridge is a critical link in almost all of our economic development plans, as well as our efforts to revive downtown Allentown.”

“You can’t ask for more from public investment in our infrastructure,” Congressman Dent added.

The funding comes from the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which passed in 2005 and provides funding for the next five years. Congressman Dent, Senator Santorum and Senator Arlen Specter helped bring funding of more than \$56.1 million in much-needed safety, infrastructure and transportation projects in the 15th District.

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